

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK**

April 26, 2012

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Mayor Donald Kasprzak, Councilors Tim Carpenter (W1), Mark Tiffer (W2), George Rabideau (W3), Jim Calnon (W4), Chris Case (W5), Chris Jackson (W6)

**Absent:** None

\*\*\*\*\*

**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the regular meeting of the Common Council held on April 19, 2012 are approved and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**2. PAYROLLS OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the payrolls of the various Departments of the City of Plattsburgh for the week ending April 25, 2012 in the amount of **\$ 255,952.45** are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and the City Clerk are hereby empowered and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Calnon  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**3. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICES & COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Report of Fire and Ambulance Responses for the week of April 19 – April 25, 2012
- Report from the Building Inspector's Office from April 11 – April 23, 2012
- Statement of cash receipts from the Library from April 5 – April 11, 2012
- Report from the Parking Violations Bureau for March 2012

**RESOLVED:** That the reports as listed are hereby ordered, received and placed on file among the public records of the City Clerk's Office.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Rabideau  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**4. CORRESPONDENCE & RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARDS: None**

\*\*\*\*\*

**5. AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

**RESOLVED:** That the bills Audited by the Common Council in the amount of \$ 2,122,003.95 are authorized and allowed and the Mayor and City Clerk (where required) are hereby authorized and directed to sign warrants drawn on the City Chamberlain for the payment thereof.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Jackson  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)

\*\*\*\*\*

**6. PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL:**

**Bailey** 5 Broad Street said thank you for letting us sit in on your meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**7. OTHER ITEMS:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Matthew Hall and the Rota Gallery to hold a “Really Really Free Market and festival” in Trinity Park on Saturday, June 16, 2012 from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Engineer to advertise for bids for Contract # 2012-08 “Utility Tractor Loader for the Public Works Department.”

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer  
Discussion: None  
Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson  
(All voted in the affirmative)  
**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted  
Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Engineer to advertise for bids for Contract #2012-09 “Painted Pavement Markings.”

By Councilor Tiffer; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**D. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to revise capital project H5110.23 “Multi-use Path Construction” to complete the revised project work as detailed in the proposed Council resolution.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**E. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the City Chamberlain to transfer \$131,000 from the 2012 General Fund budget from Inter-fund Transfers to Capital to the principal item in the Debt Service Fund budget in order to fund the required second BAN principal payment for the financing of the state mandated Akey Landfill remediation.

By Councilor Rabideau; Seconded by Councilor Calnon

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**F. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves the March of Dimes to hold a “March for Babies” (contained on the sidewalks) on Saturday, May 5, 2012 at 11:00am.

By Councilor Carpenter; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

## **8. TRAVEL REQUEST:**

**A. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves Bill Treacy Manager MLD to attend the NYMPA 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in East Syracuse, NY from May

15-16, 2012 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$290.

By Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Case

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**B. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a Police Officer to attend the “Law Enforcement Directors Association of New York Annual Conference” in Lake Placid, NY from May 16–18, 2012 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$390.96 and will be paid out of Asset Forfeiture (DOJ) funds.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Discussion: None

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

**C. RESOLVED:** In accordance with the request therefore the Common Council approves a Police Officer to attend the “Safariland Training Groups 2012 Northeast National Training Conference” in Manchester, NH from May 15-19, 2012 at an estimated cost not to exceed \$1,496 and will be paid out of Asset Forfeiture (DOJ) funds.

By Councilor Calnon; Seconded by Councilor Jackson

Discussion:

**Councilor Jackson** said Safariland training is actually training on how to handle a situation with non-lethal equipment.

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**ACTION TAKEN:** Adopted

Follow up Action: None

\*\*\*\*\*

## **9. RESOLUTIONS FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION:**

1. Request from Kevin Farrington City Engineer that Contract # 2012-02 “St. Charles Street Improvements: Cornelia Street – Elm Street” be awarded to Luck Brothers Inc. for the total bid price of \$243,305.
2. Request from US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the US Power Squadron to hold a National Safe Boating week event at the City Docks and parking lot area near Green Street on Saturday, May

19, 2012 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

3. Request from Seth Silver of 40 Trafalgar Drive to close down part of Trafalgar Drive on June 30, 2012 from 10 am to 6 pm to have a safe area for their third annual block party.
4. Request to grant the United State Coast Guard Auxiliary a license to use the Old Base marina Property for its mission.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Councilor Carpenter** said I have a question for John just for clarification. I'm the liaison to the Library. As a liaison am I allowed to talk to Library employees or would I just talk to the Library Director or just the Board. What exactly am I allowed to do?

**Corporation Counsel John Clute** said I think that you are entitled to know everything that can be known about how the Library operates. If that involves talking to employees to get their perspective on things and how they are working then I think you have perfect right to do that. When you have a position like that you kind of want to be careful in how you handle whatever information or feedback you have so you don't cut the authority of the person that is the head of the Library. But to me when you're in those jobs as liaisons to any department you are entitled to know anything you can discover about how they operate and the different points of view of the folks that work for it. Then once you gather the information you've got to figure out what do I do with it. I've got to handle it in a certain way where I don't destroy a working relationship with somebody and give them the opportunity to manage and to come back and explain your point of view.

**Councilor Calnon** said just to be clear. I would assume an employee would not be forced to talk to you. You have no authority to force them to talk to you. Whereas the department head may very well have some authority to require it we don't necessarily have that authority.

**Corporation Counsel John Clute** said these phrases are bantered about all the time "openness" and "transparency" in government. We've got all these "whistle blower laws" where an employee rats out a manager and proves that the process they saved the government money they get to collect a piece of it. Fortunately, we haven't ever had to go that far. But I think that the general idea is that when you folks are in the position you're in that when people want to come forward with information concerning the operation of the department they work in and give you their point of view, it may not be accurate, it's really tough sometimes to separate the wheat from the chaff. But I think you are entitled to certainly talk to them and find out about it but then when you get it you've got to figure out how do I digest this.

**Councilor Carpenter** said one last thing. The Library has interviewed 2 candidates for the Library position this week and I believe they are going to be having a meeting next week with the Library Board to discuss the 2 candidates and where they want to go.

**Councilor Jackson** said there is a MLD Organizational meeting for the year and the regular meeting will follow this meeting.

\*\*\*\*\*

**11. CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENTS: None**

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Jackson; Seconded by Councilor Tiffer

Roll call: Councilors Carpenter, Tiffer, Rabideau, Calnon, Case, Jackson

(All voted in the affirmative)

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:42pm**